Miners entrapped, buried and killed in coal mines

3484. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of miners entrapped/buried and killed in different coal mines of the country during the last three months;

(b) the amount paid to the next of kin killed in coal mines accidents during this period; and

(c) the safety measures taken and augmented to make mining work more safe?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) (a) 51 persons were killed in mine accidents in different coal mines of Coal India during the last three months (Jan—March 2001). Out of these 10 persons were burid and killed.

(b) An amount of Rs.78,28,956/- have been paid to the next of kin of the persons killed in coal mine accidents during last three months.

(c) In addition to compliance with requirements of mining safety laws, Coal India Ltd., and its subsidiaries are taking the following measures to check accidents in its coal mines and to make mining work more safe:—

1. Regular periodic safety audits of mines by experienced mining and electrical/mechanical engineers and implementation of the recommendations of the same.
2. Before every monsoon the danger of inundation from both surface and underground sources of water are examined in every mine and action plan for preventive measures against the same is prepared and implemented.
3. CIL has established a structured multi-disciplinary Internal Safety Organisation (ISO) for monitoring safety status of mines, both at subsidiary level and CIL Headquarter level. Intensive and quality inspections by ISO are being done.
4. Design system of support of roof in the development

workings in underground mines by scientific support systems based on Rock-Mass-Rating studies.

5. Greater use of quick setting cement capsule grouted roof bolts for support in development workings in underground mines.
6. Progressive and phased replacement timber support by steel support.
7. Reduced exposure of workers to mining hazards by mechanisation of loading operations by increasing use of SDLs and LHDs in below ground mines.
8. Thurst on training and retraining of workmen, Supervisors to increase safety awareness of the workmen.
9. A comprehensive action plan has been framed to reduce accidents in opencast mines and at surface of mines.
10. Regular monitoring of mine environment by hand held gas detectors and flame safety lamps for detecting inflammable and noxious gas. Besides, seven computerised continuous mine environmental telemonitoring system are in operation in seven mines and six numbers of such systems are in pipeline.
11. Promoting workers participation in safety management through various bodies at the mine level, area level, subsidiary company level at CIL level, who regularly take stock of the safety status of mines and make reommendations, which are being implemented.

Cost overruns of coal projects

3485. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of coal projects including the expansion of the NCL are facing coal overruns;

(b) if so, the details of such coal projects which are facing cost overruns and amount involved;